

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02
CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /056 W
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R 161500Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4288
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2281

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, EEWIT, IT, UR
SUBJECT: ITALIAN CREDIT TO USSR: OPENING OF ITALIAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 1939, (B) MOSCOW 800, (C) 76 ROME 20764

1. ITALIAN "TECHNICAL-LEVEL" DELEGATION FROM ROME (REF A).
IS PRESENTLY IN MOSCOW FOR DISCUSSIONS ON LINE OF CREDIT.
ITALIANS HAVE TOLD US THAT THESE TALKS SHOULD CLARIFY POINTS
OF DISPUTE WITH SOVIETS BUT ARE UNLIKELY TO LEAD TO EARLY
AGREEMENT ON CREDIT. AS A RESULT, ITALIAN MINISTER OF
FOREIGN TRADE OSSOLA WILL NOT MAKE A TRIP TO SOVIET UNION AT
THIS TIME. HE REPORTEDLY DOES NOT FEEL THAT ITALY SHOULD
HAVE TO SEND ITS MINISTERS ABROAD WHERE ITALY IS THE CREDIT DONOR.
THEREFORE, ITALIANS SAY, ANY NEW AGREEMENT WITH
USSR WILL BE SIGNED IN ROME. ONLY THEREAFTER WOULD OSSOLA
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VISIT USSR.

2. WE WERE TOLD IT WAS PARTLY FOR THIS REASON THAT OSSOLA
IS NOT COMING TO MOSCOW FOR OPENING OF NEW ITALIAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE OFFICE IN MOSCOW NEXT WEEK. A LARGE NUMBER OF
IMPORTANT ITALIAN BUSINESSMEN INVOLVED IN TRADE WITH USSR,
SUCH AS AGNELLI, ARE EXPECTED FOR THIS LARGELY PROTOCOLLARY

EVENT. OSSOLA DID NOT WANT TO BE SUBJECTED TO PRESSURE FROM THIS GROUP TO MEET SOVIET DEMANDS ON A NEW CREDIT LINE. INSTEAD THE ITALIAN MINISTER OF LABOR WILL ATTEND.

3. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE COUNTING ON LOBBYING BY PRIVATE BUSINESS GROUPS WITH A STAKE IN TRADE WITH THE SOVIET UNION TO HELP BRING ABOUT CREDIT AGREEMENT ON FAVORABLE TERMS.

TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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